

# PRESENTERS

---

**Teresa Concannon, AICP, Southeast GA Housing Outreach Coordinator**  
*Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs*  
(912) 536-5723

[Teresa.Concannon@dca.ga.gov](mailto:Teresa.Concannon@dca.ga.gov)

Teresa works with regions 7, 9, 11 and 12, in the South East portion of the state, serving as the local point of contact for DCA's Housing programs. Among the programs represented are: the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP), GA Dream Down Payment Assistance, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Georgia Housing Search rental locator, HomeSafe Georgia mortgage assistance, Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), and Project Homeless Connect.

Prior to joining the DCA Housing Division, Teresa worked as DCA's region 12 representative, in the DCA Office of Planning, and with the Coastal Regional Commission of Georgia. Teresa earned a master's degree in International Studies from Loyola University Chicago, an MPA from Georgia Southern University, and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

**Sidney Douse III, AICP, Senior Planner**  
*Atlanta Regional Commission*  
(404) 463-3308

[sdouse@atlantaregional.com](mailto:sdouse@atlantaregional.com)

**Sidney Douse** is a Senior Planner with the DeKalb County Department of Planning and Sustainability with over 13 years of experience in planning. Sidney specializes in land use, GIS and public involvement. Since starting at DeKalb County in 2005, he has worked on the development and implementation of the 20025 Comprehensive Plan, conducted urban design overlay reviews, completed land use and zoning case analysis and served as a project manager for several small area studies.

Mr. Douse received his MA in City Planning from Georgia Tech and a BA in Urban Studies from Morehouse College. He currently serves on the Georgia Planning Association Board of Directors as well as being the Planning Officials Development Officer.

**Jake Grabowsky, Associate Planner**  
*Office of Planning & Environmental Management*  
*Georgia Department of Community Affairs*  
(404) 679-4902

[Jake.Grabowsky@dca.ga.gov](mailto:Jake.Grabowsky@dca.ga.gov)

**Jake Grabowsky** works as an associate planner for the Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Grabowsky reviews comprehensive plans, capital improvement plans, and service delivery strategies for governments across the state as well as assists with the annexation arbitration panels.

Prior to working with the Department, Mr. Grabowsky worked as a planner for Slaughter and Associates in Oxford, Mississippi, a planning consulting firm specializing in comprehensive planning, annexations, and redistricting. Mr. Grabowsky is a graduate of The University of

# PRESENTERS

---

Alabama with a degree in economics and has a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from Auburn University.

**Janet Joiner, Community Development Director**

*City of Vienna*

*Vienna, GA 31092*

*(229) 268-4920*

[Janet.joiner@cityofvienna.org](mailto:Janet.joiner@cityofvienna.org)

**Janet Joiner** has served as Community Development Director for the City of Vienna since August, 2007. In this position, she is responsible for planning, directing, and integrating the City's planning programs and services. She wears many hats, overseeing the City's Zoning and Planning Commission, the Downtown Development Authority, the Vienna Development Authority, the Historic Preservation Commission, Vienna Main Street, and the City's Housing Initiative. Prior to her work with the City of Vienna, she served as the Clerk of Dooly County and the Executive Director of the Vienna Historic Preservation Society. She received her County Clerk Certification from the UGA Carl Vinson Institute and she is a 2002 graduate of the Georgia Academy for Economic Development.

Among the awards and recognitions Janet has received are:

- "20 Over 40" recognition featured in a special edition of the Cordele Dispatch.
- The Delma Sangster Professional Woman of the Year by the Dooly County Chamber of Commerce.
- Officers Impact Award for outstanding efforts in promoting the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

**Emily Machesi-Preston**

*Coleman | Talley LLP*

*3475 Lenox Road NE, Suite 400*

*Atlanta, GA 30326*

*(678) 987-0935*

[Emily.Macheski-Preston@colemantalley.com](mailto:Emily.Macheski-Preston@colemantalley.com) / [www.colemantalley.com](http://www.colemantalley.com)

**Emily Macheski-Preston** is a litigation attorney focusing in local government law, zoning and affordable housing. She has represented local governments across the State of Georgia, including the City of Brookhaven, the City of Atlanta, the City of Valdosta, and the newly formed City of Stonecrest. As a local government attorney, Emily has served local governments in all capacities including drafting ordinances, serving as a municipal court solicitor for the City of Brookhaven and the City of Stonecrest, and defending governments against challenges to ordinances and zoning decisions. Emily's recent cases include successfully defending the City of Valdosta's sign ordinance against numerous first amendment challenges by a national billboard company and successfully defending a county's imposition of conditions on a special use permit for a surface mine.

Emily Macheski-Preston attended both Oglethorpe University and Mercer Law School on full academic scholarships, graduating with honors. A native of Valdosta, Emily joined Coleman Talley

# PRESENTERS

---

LLP in 2010 and worked out of the firm's Valdosta office for four years. In 2014, Emily relocated to the firm's Buckhead office. Since then, Emily has appeared in over thirty counties on behalf of government and private parties. In 2009 and 2010, Emily was recognized for her oral advocacy skills by Emory University, the Charleston School of Law, and the National Order of Barristers. In 2010, Emily was awarded the Ruth T. West Award for Advocacy and Leadership by Mercer University. In 2012, Emily was named the Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce's Young Professional of the Year. She is a graduate of the 2013 Class of Leadership Lowndes, a member of Georgia Forward's 2016 Young Gamechangers, and a graduate of the 2017 State Bar of Georgia's Leadership Academy. Emily currently resides in Roswell, Georgia, with her husband and two dogs.

**Jeff Ricketson, AICP, Executive Director**  
*Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission*  
*Hinesville, Georgia 31313*  
*(912) 408-2033*

[jricketson@thelcpc.org](mailto:jricketson@thelcpc.org)

**Jeff Ricketson** has been LCPC Executive Director since June 2013. A native of Georgia, Jeff holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and a Master's Degree in City Planning from Georgia Tech. He is a member of the American Institute of Planners and the Georgia Chapter of the American Planning Association. Jeff has 23 years of planning experience in the public sector. He served as Planning Division Director for Anderson County, South Carolina for 12 years. He also served as manager of Advance Planning and Research for the Nashville Metropolitan Planning Commission in Tennessee, where he managed transportation planning for the 5-county Nashville metropolitan area MPO.

In addition to serving in local government planning, Jeff has served as a planning director for two regional planning agencies in Georgia: the CSRA Regional Commission in Augusta and the Fort Stewart Growth Management Partnership in Hinesville. In both agencies, he worked extensively with small and medium size communities in drafting plans and ordinances to guide growth and development. In the latter, he helped local communities plan for impacts of growth at Fort Stewart.

**Jim Summerbell, AICP**  
*Jacobs Engineering*  
*(404) 978-7579*

[Jim.Summerbell@jacobs.com](mailto:Jim.Summerbell@jacobs.com)

[www.jacobs.com](http://www.jacobs.com)

**Jim Summerbell, AICP**, is a Planning Consultant with Jacobs Engineering and is the President-Elect of the Georgia Planning Association. He has over 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors preparing Master Plans, Livable Centers Initiatives, Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plans for local governments.

# PRESENTERS

---

Before joining Jacobs, Jim worked for with the Gwinnett County Planning and Department as the Manager of Long Range Planning. He earned a Master of City Planning degree from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rhodes College.

**Jessica Tullar, AICP, Special Projects Manager**  
*Gainesville Community Development Department*  
*Gainesville, GA 30503-2496*  
*(770) 531-6570*

[jtullar@gainesville.org](mailto:jtullar@gainesville.org)

**Jessica Tullar** is an urban planner and the Special Projects Manager for the City of Gainesville, Community Development Department. In this role, she provides support and assistance in planning, coordinating and supervising initiatives and special projects. She assists in the development and negotiation of agreements for special projects undertaken by the department and coordinates the implementation of the City's redevelopment projects, historic preservation program, neighborhood planning and development initiatives, and various grant-funded projects.

Jessica received her undergraduate education at the University of Georgia, earning a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Geography in May 1999. She then received her Masters of Public Administration with a Local Government Specialization from the University of Georgia in May 2005, and then in 2007 earned her American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification. Originally from the Atlanta area, Jessica and her husband Brian and sons, Clifton and Harrison, live in Flowery Branch. Jessica actively volunteers in the community, serving as Chair of the Hall County Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Board and as a Director on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier Board of Directors. She also serves on the Children's Ministry Team and Local Mission Expo committee at First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville.

**Jon A. West, AICP**  
*Office of Planning & Environmental Management*  
*Georgia Department of Community Affairs*  
*(404) 327-6872*

[jon.west@dca.ga.gov](mailto:jon.west@dca.ga.gov)

**Jon West** works for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as the State's primary liaison when coordinating with local governments on issues of community planning, growth management, and development regulation. Additionally, Jon manages Georgia's Developments of Regional Impact (DRI) program, the State's mechanism for assessing/mitigating adverse consequences of developments whose impacts are anticipated to extend beyond the boundaries of individual jurisdictions. He coordinates the Department's processes for review of comprehensive plans, capital improvement plans, and service delivery plans from every local government in the state. He has designed training and made presentations on a variety of topics to groups including the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, the Georgia Municipal Association, the Carl Vinson Institute for Government, the Georgia Academy for Economic Development, the Georgia Planning Association, the International Council of Shopping Centers, the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions, and local governments throughout Georgia.

# PRESENTERS

---

Prior to working with the Department, Mr. West co-founded *Larkin, Holland, Thompson, & West*, a boutique consultancy which specialized in providing community planning and development services to small, rural communities throughout the South. More recently, he has consulted on a number of post-Katrina planning and redevelopment projects on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Mr. West currently sits on the DeKalb County Planning Commission and volunteers with the Disaster Services Division of the American Red Cross.

**Adriane Wood**, *Planning Outreach Coordinator*  
*Office of Planning & Environmental Management*  
*Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs*  
(478) 319-0433

[adriane.wood@dca.ga.gov](mailto:adriane.wood@dca.ga.gov)

**Adriane Wood** is a senior planner with the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Office of Planning and Environmental Management. Her responsibilities include overseeing the development and implementation of the Department's PlanFirst program, maintenance of the Department's list of Georgia planning success stories and best practices, as well as the Community Planning Institute workshops for Water, Planning and Zoning, and Hazard Mitigation. Ms. Wood has been with the Department for 18 years.

Before working for the Office of Planning and Environmental Management, Adriane managed DCA's Region 6 Office of Regional Services. Prior to that, she was planning director for the Middle GA RDC, as well as serving as regional preservation planner for that regional development center for 14 years. Adriane graduated from Wesleyan College and the University of Georgia.